

DIARY NOTES

DD/S

17 February 1955

1. Asked Ed Saunders to prepare either a staff study or a graphic presentation sometime soon which would make specific recommendations as to what we should do about requesting "no year" funds.

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2. Asked Ed to see [REDACTED] without further delay concerning the latter's request for the transfer of certain positions from [REDACTED] staff to the Planning and Program Coordination Staff.

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3. [REDACTED] alerted me to the fact that in connection with the special project which he is working on he will probably need office space for twenty-five to thirty people, possibly as early as August. Our building at 2210 "E" Street might be a good possibility. (I have assigned [REDACTED] to work on this.)

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4. Attended the usual weekly DD/P Staff Meeting. Subjects discussed were:

a. Marriage to Aliens....authority to approve. It was not settled and will be discussed next week. I agreed to supply statistics which would indicate to the Deputy Director (Plans) the workload involved if these requests should go through his Office for comment.

b. Mr. Wisner spoke at some length on the necessity for developing better public relations at all levels.

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c. [REDACTED] reiterated the Director's instructions concerning cables, i.e., personnel receiving "action" cables are responsible for insuring that the Director is on the distribution list for those which they feel he should see.

d. There was considerable discussion of the "defector" problem. It is the Director's feeling that we have not been cutting in the members of the Interagency Defector Committee in certain cases where we should have done so. Mr. [REDACTED] of the Defector Committee defended this position by stating that it was difficult to differentiate between a potential agent and a bona fide defector. Mr. Wisner asked [REDACTED] to form a small committee to draw the facts together and make a specific recommendation.

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- e. [REDACTED] announced that area division officers were authorized to address mail direct to Mr. Higgs of the Department of State. However, he stated that they were prohibited from delegating this authority and cautioned them to check with his office to insure that the information which they requested was not already available in CIA.

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6. Shef Edwards returned from Europe and briefed me on the situation in the Security Branch there. He is replacing [REDACTED] From his report I would judge that his trip was well worthwhile.

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7. I signed a letter to Mr. Weatherbee, Executive Director, Bureau of Personnel, Post Office Department, explaining the circumstances which lead up to [REDACTED] desire to leave the Agency and assuring him that I considered George to be a valuable employee. Later in the day Mr. Weatherbee telephoned and thanked me for my letter and I confirmed the fact that George was under no compulsion whatever to leave here, that we regarded him as a valuable employee, and that if he should desire to join the Post Office Department their gain would be our loss.

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